

TORRANCE BLAZES WITH NEWS EVENTS



EDITORIAL PAGE

W. R. ZAPPAS, Publisher

HARRY KLISSNER, Editor

Article Hits Hurry Habit As Practiced by Americans

Too many Americans have "the hurry habit," according to an article by Richard Dunlop in the latest issue of the Allstate Insurance Companies magazine, Home & Highway.

The perpetual hurrier's greatest sin as a driver is failure to adjust his speed to road, weather, visibility and traffic conditions, the article states.

Among the startling statistics quoted in the informative piece is the fact that a "hurry habit" driver can burn \$15 of rubber from his tires by screeching to a locked-wheel stop at 60 mph. Even slamming on the brakes at moderate speeds costs him 75 cents per slam.

10-MILE TRIP

Another interesting item is the fact that on a 10-mile trip the individual who drives 80 mph will arrive at his destination only 4.5 minutes ahead of the careful driver who pushed his car along at 50 mph.

The Allstate publication lists these helpful hints for careful driving, regardless of how much in a hurry a driver may be:

1. Approaching and moving through an intersection, the wise driver slows down so he can stop in time.

2. Nearing the top of a hill, he drives slowly enough to bring his car to a quick stop should it be necessary.

3. Coming into a curve, he governs his speed according to its sharpness.

4. He adjust his speed to a narrow, winding road.

5. He adjusts his speed to slippery road conditions.

6. If rain, snow, fog or darkness cut visibility, he reduces his speed so he will not overdrive his lights or his view ahead.

SLOWS DOWN

7. In a school or playground zone — posted or not — he slows down during hours when children may be present.

8. On narrow streets with cars parked on both sides or in alleys, he is especially watchful for children and other pedestrians stepping into his path. He is alert to bike riders.

9. When he drives through a business district, he slows to a crawl because of the strange behavior of jaywalking shoppers.

10. Approaching standing streetcars and buses releasing passengers, he slows down.

11. If he is getting too close to the car ahead, he slows down.

And No. 11 is the hardest for the "hurry habit" driver to comply with, the Allstate article says, because this careless driver characteristically

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cally speeds up to the rear of the car ahead and companionably hangs a horrifying few feet behind its bumper.

Allstate's advice: If you don't have the hurry habit, avoid it; if you have it, break it.

While summers usually are dull periods for news, Torrance this year has been ablaze with more than its share of timely happenings.

Unfortunately most of the spot incidents involve crimes, tragedies and accidents. There have been two murders, a plane crash in which both occupants were killed, a hit-and-run case causing the death of a three-year-old girl and auto mishaps too numerous to mention.

But this is one of the features a large suburban city must face along with its progress. Since there are more than 111,000 people in this community, it is surprising that the death and ac-

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cident toll is not far greater.

Murder, no matter in what city it occurs, is an unaccountable tragedy, and Torrance has no priority on sick minds. The pressure of 20th Century living makes every city a target for crimes against people and property.

Perhaps if our society could devote more time to teaching youngsters how to curb jealousies, envy and feelings of revenge, the world would be a better place in which to live.

This still would not explain what to do about a person who is sick enough to attack or kill a child, or temporarily goes insane.

Mental illness strikes without warn-

ing, and Torrance certainly has had its tragedies. It is not surprising if residents wonder whether the city has garnered a corner on the crime rate. However, statistics do not bare out this point of view.

Kiwanis Attend 37th Convention

Three Torrance men attended the 47th annual convention of Kiwanis International in Denver, Colo., from June 10 to 14. They were H. G. Stephens, president; B. I. Johnson, secretary; and T. G. Wilkes, past president of the local chapter.

They joined 15,000 other Kiwanians, their wives and

families in a visit to Denver—by Kiwanis—after an absence of 38 years. I am persuaded that every time a man smiles — but much more so when he laughs — it adds something to this fragment of life.

—Lawrence Sterne



TORRANCE RANCHERO DAYS/AUGUST 1-5

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY: Five fun-filled days for the people of Torrance and the South Bay area are promised by the program for the 8th annual Ranchero Days celebration.

A carnival with 20 different thrill rides and attractions and featuring a double Ferris Wheel will hold forth on the east side of the Del Amo shopping center, between Carson and Sepulveda. Food and game concessions will be sponsored and manned by 15 Torrance service clubs.

Top professional cowboys of the Rodeo Cowboy Association will be pitted against 125 of the roughest, toughest bucking broncos and bulls in North America in the big rodeo Saturday and Sunday afternoon, Aug. 4-5. Cowboys from all over the nation will compete in six exciting events each day, including saddle bronc riding, calf roping, bareback bronc riding, team roping, steer wrestling and bull riding. An added feature will be girls' barrel racing.

One of Southern California's finest western parades is planned for Saturday morning. Bands, drill teams and mounted groups from throughout California and the western states will participate.

Ranchero Days, the only combined service club event held in Torrance each year, is sponsored by the Torrance Elks Lodge, Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Mounted Police Association.

A portion of the proceeds from Ranchero Days will be used to finance the Torrance float to be entered in the Tournament of Roses Parade, New Year's Day. The balance of the funds will go to support the various projects of the Torrance service clubs.

It is a pleasure to be a part of a city that works together to stage and support an outstanding event like Ranchero Days. This community spirit and enthusiasm is another of the important reasons why we at the Mobil refinery are glad to call Torrance our home town.

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